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# Hoosier Hangar Talk

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

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## Wood, Fabric and Tailwheels Fly-In September 29, 2007

Have you ever dreamed of seeing classic aircraft such as a Tiger Moth, Staggerwing or a Swallow operate in their natural setting? Seeing these classic aircraft flying in and out of a turf strip in the scenic country away from the hustle and bustle of airways, control towers and flight plans? If you have ever imagined witnessing the grass roots of aviation, then you need to attend the annual Wood, Fabric and Tailwheels Fly-In at Lee Bottom Flying Field.

Lee Bottom Flying Field is nestled in the Ohio River bottom near the historic city of Madison, Indiana. Utilizing the slogan, "Where old planes go to fly", Lee Bottom holds their fly-in annually on the last Saturday of every September. The event has grown larger and larger every year to the point that it is now the largest antique aircraft fly-in East of the Mississippi river. With the event growing into



A Laird Swallow pictured with the beautiful landscape surrounding Lee Bottom Flying Field

such a large gathering it has received much media exposure including a feature on Sport Pilot



A DC-3 utilizing the Lee Bottom Flying Field during last year's fly-in

TV, AOPA Pilot magazine, Air Classics, and more.

The fly-in is officially considered a one day event although many people arrive on Friday and leave on Sunday. Started as an excuse to fly, the event has now grown to the point of attracting nearly 300 planes and 1000 people. This "aviation refuge", as some call it, is kept in amazing shape by owners Rich and Ginger Davidson. Their hard work, combined with the helping hand of some aviation friends make this amazing event possible every year.

While most aircraft in attendance at the fly-in are antique and classic, everyone is welcome. If you want to jump in your 172 and go down for the weekend, feel free. They also invite anyone who does not have access to an airplane but has a love for

aviation and wants to attend to do so by vehicle. However, they caution that there is very limited car parking and there is a suggested donation of \$10 per family if you are going to arrive by car. For more details about the fly-in or the airport in general visit: [www.leebottom.com](http://www.leebottom.com).

So, for an aviation experience unlike any other offered in this state, clear the weekend, grab your tent and head down to Lee Bottom Flying Field for the 11th Annual Wood, Fabric and Tailwheels Fly-In.

*-Thanks to Rich and Ginger Davidson for information provided for this article. Other information obtained at [leebottom.com](http://leebottom.com).*



This year's event could attract as many as 300 aircraft.

# Feature Airport of the Month

## Shelbyville Municipal Airport (GEZ)



If you have ever had the chance to visit the Shelbyville Municipal Airport probably you were greeted graciously by Sherry or Darrell Shrader. They have been the caretakers of the airport for 33 years. Located four miles Northwest of the city of Shelbyville, the airport offers a great alternative to flying into the busy airspace one may encounter in and around the Indianapolis area.

With the infrastructure that is in place at Shelbyville, they can accommodate a wide variety of pilots/airplanes. The main runway, 1-19, is 5000 feet x 100 feet which gives them enough length to accommodate many business jets and turbo-prop aircraft. They also have a secondary turf runway, 9-27, which measures 2671 feet x 190 feet perfectly suited for the tail-dragger pilots or anyone wanting to practice some soft-field landings. The airport houses 65 aircraft and had an operations count of 24,094 in 2006.

The Shelbyville Municipal Airport originally began as an emergency landing field in the 1930's for air mail pilots flying in the light beacon system. Still preserved on the field today is a concrete arrow, on which a light beacon used to sit, which was used by the air mail pilots to guide them in the right direction. In the 1950's a group of businessmen decided to start an airport on the emergency landing site. This airport was soon purchased by the city of Shelbyville in the late 1950's and has been

located there ever since. The main runway was constructed in 1998 replacing the former runway which now serves as the parallel taxiway. The airport currently sits on 520 acres of land, with a little less than half of that land being planted with crops annually.

Also built in 1998 was the current terminal building. It offers several outstanding features that include the passenger lobby area, pilot's lounge, conference room, kitchenette, and Meteorlogix Weather System with color radar.

A unique aspect of the airport is the location of a National Guard unit on the property just west of the airport. Almost on a daily basis you can see the Blackhawk helicopters, operated by the National Guard, utilizing the airport for practice approaches or maneuvers.

The airport offers several services which include small

charter, flight instruction and fuel sales of Jet A and 100LL. The airport is attended from 8AM-8PM. For any further information about the airport



Passenger lobby in the airport terminal

you can call (317) 392-1284 or visit

[www.shelbyvilleaviation.com](http://www.shelbyvilleaviation.com).

*-information for the article provided by Sherry Shrader and shelbyvilleaviation.com*



Arrow used by air mail pilots to point them in the right direction



Turf Runway 9-27 measuring 2671 feet x 190 feet

# Adam French, Aviation Intern, Set to Depart

Many around the state aviation community have had the privilege of meeting Adam French. Adam has been working as an intern in INDOT's Office of Aviation this summer. His main function has been to manage the Airport Traffic Counting Program, but he has also been involved in several other projects during his time here.

Adam will be returning to Indiana State University where he will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Administration in December of this year. He already possesses an Associate's Degree in General Aviation Flight Technology, also from Indiana State University. He is a commercial rated pilot who began his flying during high school.

Adam has held a couple of other positions

that have given him valuable experience for beginning a career in aviation. In addition to this internship he worked as a lineman at the Jasper County Airport and also as a weatherman for Lakeshore Public Television.

Adam will be looking for employment come December saying, "I would like to work with people within the aviation industry as an airport consultant or for INDOT. At this point in time I am really open to exploring new career paths within aviation and enjoy meeting new people."

The INDOT Office of Aviation would like to thank Adam for all of his hard work this summer, and are confident that he will be a great contributor to the aviation industry.



## Private-Use Airstrip Certification

Everyday INDOT receives questions regarding the proper procedure for opening a private-use airport/heliport. In order to start the certification process the owner of the land would need to contact the INDOT Office of Aviation. From there, our office can guide them on how to file the proper paperwork and be in compliance with all state and federal regulations.

The Office of Aviation has assembled packets containing all pertinent paperwork for the opening of a private-use facility. The packets are comprised of the FAA form 7480-1 which is the notice of landing area proposal, State form 9193 which is an application for private-use site approval, a landing area location drawing chart, and also an Indiana Aeronautical chart for depiction of the proposed location.

These forms need to be completed by

the proponent and sent back to this office upon completion. INDOT will file these documents and also forward all of this information to the FAA for an airspace study.

If the airspace study receives a determination of no hazard from the FAA we will then issue a state operating certificate for the site.

**Next issue we will discuss what type of operations can and cannot take place at a private-use facility**



## Welcome Adam Fackler

We have a new face in the office. Adam Fackler is the new Chief Airport Inspector.

Adam is a graduate of Indiana State University's Professional Flight Technology Program. He holds several pilot ratings up to and including being a Certified Flight Instructor. While in Terre Haute, Adam instructed at Terre Haute

International Airport's flight school. He was also an instructor in the Indiana State University simulator lab.

Adam's first day was August 13. He will soon be out and about performing the state airport inspections, so if you get a chance, please join us in welcoming Adam to the team here at INDOT.





## **INDOT Office of Aviation**

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"The airport runway is the most important  
mainstreet in any town."

-Norm Crabtree

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**Project Manager: Marcus Dial**

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# **Indiana Aviation Events (September, 2007)**

**Fly-In Cruise-In Pancake Breakfast**

**September 1, 2007**

**Marion Municipal Airport**

**7AM—12PM**

**Terre Haute Air Fair**

**September 15 & 16, 2007**

**Terre Haute International Airport**

**Gates open at 10AM**

**Aviation Day 2007**

**September 22, 2007**

**Paoli Municipal Airport**

**8AM—4PM**

For Further Information on listed  
events visit

[http://www.in.gov/dot/modetrans/  
airports/airShows.html](http://www.in.gov/dot/modetrans/airports/airShows.html)



**French Lick Airshow**

**September 29, 2007**

**French Lick Municipal Airport**

**Gates Open at 9AM**

**Wood, Fabric and Tailwheels Fly-In**

**September 29, 2007**

**Lee Bottom Airport**

**Barbeque Fly-In**

**Kokomo-Glenndale Airport**

**September 22, 2007**

**11AM-5PM**